

MAY 14TH — A RED LETTER DAY

VILTIS CONCERT OF THE YEAR

Those who attended festivals sponsored by VILTIS know that they are the finest, the best and most unusual programs anywhere. This year's program promises to be even of more unusual scope with dances from the Punjab province of India — the ancient ritualistic fire dance, a dance from Pakistan, Burma, Ukraine, Lithuania, Spain, Mexico, Hassidic numbers and many other surprises.

The program will be held at the Lithuanian Auditorium, 3133 S. Halsted St. on May 14th at 6:00 P. M. The program will last for two hours and followed by four hours of folk and social dancing to a good orchestra. Admission — One Dollar Even. Proceeds of the festival will go toward the publishing of the book "The Dance of Lietuva".

NEW RECORDS RELEASES

The Folkraft recording company released four new records, of mixed nationalities, under the supervision of Vytis Beliajus. The records are sold singly. Descriptions of the dances with each record. The orchestra was under the direction of Wally Balicki.

Apres De Ma Blonde — French Canadian. For as many that will. Skipping.

La Boulangere — An old French square dance. Skipping.

Soyotte Lorraine — French couple dance from Lorraine, with a polka.

Moskrosor — Scandinavian. A schottische mixer for fours.

Nigun — Jewish. Mixer, running steps, for fours.

Zasiali Gorale — Polish. For trios.

Kashubian Waltz — A Polish waltz.

Ratukas — Lithuanian. A polka mixer.

Clumpakajis (The Wooden Shod) — a favorite Lithuanian polka dance. Two versions described.

LITHUANIAN DAY

Once again, February 16th, former Lithuanian Independence Day, was commemorated by the Lithuanians in the United States and exile. Many American Mayors and governors proclaimed that date as "Lithuanian Day"; New York City devoted a television program which was televised over the national hookup VJZ dedicated to Lithuania. Barbara Darlys, Marian Kizys were the singers and Mr. Tadas Sidlauskas was the pianist.

15th Annual

THE NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

April 12, 13, 14, and 15

OPERA HOUSE — KIEL M'P'L AUDITORIUM

THE MEETING PLACE OF
FOLK DANCERS AND SINGERS

* From *

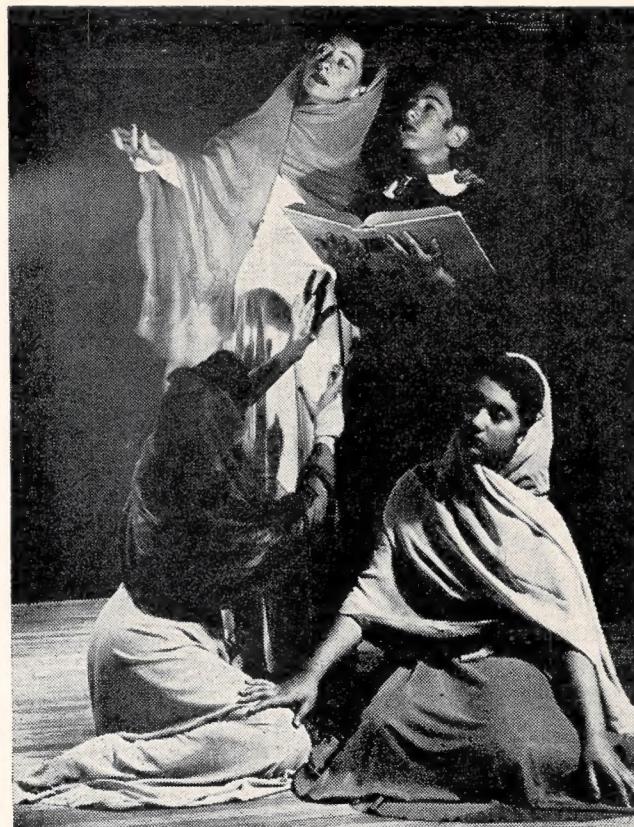
EVERY SECTION OF AMERICA

★ Of ★

ALL DESCENTS AND TRADITIONS

Write: Sarah Gertrude Knott or M. J. Pickering
National Folk Festival Association

Room 625—706 Chestnut St., St. Louis 1, Mo.



Hungarian National and Peasant Costumes

Betty Blanche Szekely



MEZOKOVESD — Above. To right — HUNGARIAN NATIONAL

Brief History:

The Hungarian dress is rich, colorful, ancient and very distinguished, though in some parts of the country, as on the Great Plains of Hungary and around the Lake Balaton, it has completely vanished and in other parts is beginning to disappear. With their swinging skirts, twinkling boots, ballooning or flowing sleeves, bright kerchiefs, flowery crowns, sleek bodices and exquisit handiwork, they are delightful to see and exuberant in form and color. The history of the Hungarian dress goes side by side with the history of the nation and if we want to understand it more fully, let us look for traces of the earliest times in history.

Thousands of years before Christ we find records of a people belonging to the Turkish and Ugro-Finnish race of which the Hungarians are descendants; the mightiest being the Huns, who consisted of many groups. They were those fierce and strong fighters who overcame so many of the other famous Asiatic tribes. However, warfare was not the only thing these unique fighters were good at, they had organization, legislation and artistic culture. Before the Hungarians entered the closed-in territory, called the Carpathian basin, through which the Danube flows, no stable or lasting national regime existed there. They established the first such regime at the end of the 9th century. The nations of Western Europe, who were only half cultured at the time thought the Asiatic Huns barbaric and though they feared them, looked down on them with cold pride in their own superficial culture. It is unquestionable that this race had a great, advanced artistic culture of the East and, as they had much to do with the changing of the map of Asia and Europe, so they have left lasting traces in the history of European culture as well. One of the most famous and most valuable things they brought to Europe was the artistic fashions and decorations of their clothing.

National Costumes, Girls:

The costumes you see on the front cover are the National costumes; white being the predominate color. The girl's skirt, usually accordian pleated and very full, consisting anywhere from 5 to 6 yards of the whitest and softest of cotton, linen or organdie, stands out elegantly over numerous starched petticoats, which falls into innumerable folds when the wearer is still, and flows in beautiful waves in the whirling folk dances; especially the Csardas. The skirt is sewn around the bottom with ribbons of the National color, red and green. A snug bolero bodice, usually of red velvet or satin, covers the white waist which has short, bloused sleeves. The crowns are made in the shape of hearts or pointed peaks and matches the bolero or is made of real or artificial flowers. The tall boots are made of soft colored leather, very frequently crimson, and have the tops embellished either with leather or cloth applique.

INTERESTING TIDBITS

It wasn't until the years 1839, 1840 that Hungarian became the official language of the Magyars, replacing Latin.

As a tribute to the memory of Louis Kossuth's (hero of the War of Independence 1849) gallant fight for the liberation of Hungary as well as for humanity, New York City has erected a statue in his honor on Riverside Drive, so did Cleveland in 1906.

Buda and Pest were at one time separate cities. They were united 1873; hence, Budapest.

Hungary's principal exports to the United States are feathers, jute, seeds, beans, linseed oil and paprika.

Mor Preisz (1829-1877) a professor of chemistry discovered pasteurisation four years before Pasteur. However, not having published his findings in any language but Hungarian, he lost the benefit of being recognized the inventor.

Hungary has the third oldest Parliament. First — Iceland; 2nd — England (Magna Charta, 1215). 3rd — Hungary (Golden Bulla, 1222).

The most important and colorful furniture of a girl is her hope chest or Tulipanios Lada usually painted in blue and adorned with yellow and red tulips. The tulip is an ancient and very popular motive in Hungarian folk art.

John Bolyai (1802-1860) was the talented mathematician who definitely solved the 1000 year-old problem of parallelism.

Miskolc has one of the largest and best musical academies in the provincial towns of Hungary.

The Hungarian language is spoken by 11 million people on the territory of former Hungary. A French statistical report states that of the 120 living languages spoken in Europe, Hungarian takes the 11th place in regard to the number of people by whom it is spoken and of the 1500 languages known throughout the world, it is entitled to the 29th place.

A considerable part of the world's bauxite resources are in Hungary.

Two gypsy band leaders were so highly thought of because of their musical talents and the innumerable songs they gave the Hungarian people, that statues were erected at the end of the last century in their honor. The statue of Pista Danko stands in Szeged and Janos Bihari's statue is in Budapest.

The first subway, completed in 1896 was built in Budapest for the Millennial celebrations and national exhibition.

Although Hungarian Goulash is famous far and wide, contrary to the belief of many, it is a soup NOT a stew.